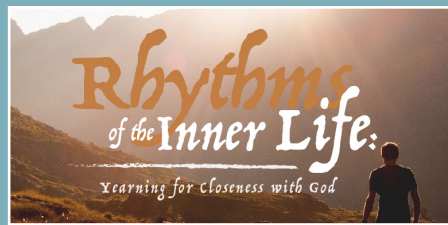


UPCOMING EVENTS

Pastor's Sabbath Retreat

Send your pastors to the 2016 EFC-MAYM Pastor's Sabbath Retreat in CO! The retreat is **May 2-5** in Westcliffe, CO. The theme this year is "Rhythms of the Inner Life: Yearning for Closeness with God". Register by *March 27th*.



Ministry Conference 2016 Preview

Mark your calendars for the 2016 EFC-MAYM Ministry Conference which will be held in Wichita, KS **July 21-24**. This year's theme will be "Deep and Wide: Embracing the Transformational Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ".

Extended Application Deadline: March 1, 2016!

The Journey Project Summer Internship is for college students who desire a challenging urban missional experience. The brochure and application along with more information can all be found at www.tribeofriends.org.

KIBIMBA HOSPITAL UPDATE

FRIENDS OF KIBIMBA HOSPITAL BOARD | BURUNDI, AFRICA

The Friends of Kibimba Hospital, Inc. board gratefully appreciates your interest and support through the years. The hospital continues to be very busy. It is well known for surgery and maternity so people come from all over the country to receive medical care. They are also in the process of computerizing their data. When the computer system is completely installed it will enable them to track daily number of patients that visit the clinic, keep records of the work hours for the nurses and other employees and help track the hospital patients and the progress of their recoveries. UNICEF gave the hospital a land cruiser and the hospital purchased another vehicle from a government surplus car sale.



Dr. Nahimana Elisee continues to be the director of the hospital. He has a very efficient staff of five doctors, 35 nurses, 57 personnel who work in administration, security, maintenance and housekeeping. The doctors are assigned to different areas of the hospital such as maternity, clinic, and general surgery.

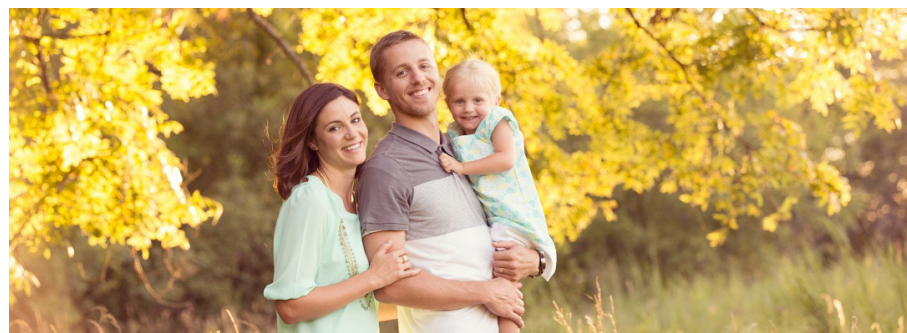
With the completion of the post-surgery ward building during 2015, the hospital is now a 270 bed hospital. The new building houses two large surgery wards with 20 beds each three rooms with 10 beds each and one room with two beds for critical patients, a nurses station and a store room. FKH supplied funds for the mattresses for this facility. Since it is located near the entrance gate and the patients cards are kept there, the clients stop to pick up their card and are directed to where they need to go for treatment.

BARCLAY COLLEGE POSITION OPENINGS

Barclay College is now accepting inquiries and applications for a College Registrar and a Professor of Youth Ministry. Both positions are scheduled to begin in Fall 2016. Additional information can be found at barclaycollege.edu/employment.



FRIENDS OF LAWRENCE: COMMUNITY ON MISSION WITH GOD



Our names are Jeremiah, Wendy and Abigail Williams. We were led to Lawrence, KS in June of 2015. Under the umbrella and support of Evangelical Friends Church Mid-America and upon the closing of Lawrence Friends Church in Autumn of 2014, we are now living in Lawrence and seeking the Lord's direction in how we can best love and serve this community. Visit them at friendsoflawrence.wordpress.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS | 2016

- March 12-19 - Spring Invasion, Coahuila, Mexico
- May 2-5 - Pastor's Sabbath Retreat at Horn Creek Camp in Westcliffe, CO
- June 4-17 - Camps at Camp Quaker Haven, Arkansas City, KS
- June 22-July 10 - Burundi, Saltshaker Mission Trip
- June 22-July 7 - Nepal, Saltshaker Mission Trip
- July 21-24 - Ministry Conference at Friends University, Wichita, KS
- July 25-August 1 - Wilderness Retreat, Wyoming
- August 3-5 - National Friends Church Multiplication Conference at Barclay College, Haviland, KS
- September 2-5 - Family Camp, Camp Quaker Haven, Arkansas City, KS

For more information visit efcmaym.org/events

insights

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LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The upcoming Leadership Institute sessions will be held on **Mar 7**, **April 4** and **May 2** at 7:00 p.m. (Central Time). To learn how to participate, visit efcmaym.org/leadership-institute.

CQH CAMP DATES

Kids Camp, Grades 3 – 6
June 4-8 | \$235

Senior High Camp, Grades 9 – 12
June 9-13 | \$235

Junior High Camp, Grades 6 – 8
June 13 – 17 | \$235

WILDERNESS RETREAT

July 25-August 1, 2016 | Centennial, WY.
Application deadline is March 15.

2016 MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

ADAM MONAGHAN | ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

You are invited! Check out these upcoming mission trip opportunities for EFC-MAYM youth and young adults. Please pass on the information to those within your congregations or areas who might be interested.

Spring Invasion 2016

Registration for the Spring Break missions trip to serve with our Friends in Coahuila, Mexico is now open. Registration price goes up after February 19th. See all the information and the link to register for Spring Invasion at efcmaym.org/spring-invasion-2016. EFC-MAYM has been sending teams to Coahuila, Mexico for Spring Invasion since 1993!



Saltshaker 2016

Registration is now open for both the Saltshaker 2016 Burundi and Nepal missions trips this summer. These trips are open to high school and college students as well as young adults who are interested in missions. Applications and deposits are due February 15th (or until the teams are full). See all the information and the link to register for Saltshaker at efcmaym.org/saltshaker-mission-trip.



Please contact Adam Monaghan at the Friends Ministry Center with questions!

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

DAVID WILLIAMS | GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

On Sunday, February 7, the Denver Broncos defeated the Carolina Panthers in Super Bowl 50. It was the eighth Super Bowl appearance by the Broncos and the second appearance by the Panthers. There are four other NFL teams, however, that have never been to the big dance: the Cleveland Browns, Detroit Lions, Houston Texans, and Jacksonville Jaguars. Of the four, the Browns and the Lions are the only non-expansion teams that have yet to play in a Super Bowl.

Cleveland does stand alone in the sports world in at least one category, however. The city holds the record for the longest-standing drought when it comes to winning a championship of any kind in any major sport. Millions of long-suffering fans from northeast Ohio have not seen a winner in Cleveland since the Browns beat the Colts in the 1964 NFL Championship. This means that the vast majority of Cleveland sports fans have never witnessed a championship in their lifetime, thus giving rise to the widespread adoption of common creed: "Just one before I die, baby!"

In case you haven't guessed it by now, I am a Cleveland sports fan. Offering up such a confession feels a bit like a standard introduction to a 12-step group: "Hi, my name is Dave, and I'm a Cleveland sports fan. It's been 52 years since my last championship." And just to prove the point beyond any shadow of a doubt, you should know that I am highly confident that this is the year that the Cavaliers will bring home the Larry O'Brien trophy for the first time in their 46-year history.

Now then, you may be asking yourself, what does all of this nonsense have to do with disciple-making? In my mind, at least, the connection is very clear. Making disciples always takes times. Sometimes it takes what may seem like a very, very long time. And it can be very, very messy. As a dear friend of mine is known to say, "Disciple-making is a process, and the process doesn't always look like progress." Or as I frequently remind my spiritual formation students, "Disciple-making is not a snapshot. It's a motion picture." It requires a willingness to wait patiently for the finished product to appear.

Just ask the Apostle Paul. Acts 9 and Acts 13 may be just a few pages apart in our Bibles, but most New Testament scholars agree that it was probably at least ten full years between the time that Saul of Tarsus saw the light on the Damascus Road and the day he was ready to embark on his first missionary journey as a fully devoted disciple of Jesus.

Or you might ask our foreign missionaries who are called to lead disciple-making initiatives among unreached people groups around the world. On many of these fields, there is no tangible interest in the gospel for many months, or even years. And when new converts do profess a desire to follow Jesus, there is almost always a lengthy "waiting period" before they are ready to be fully incorporated into a local church and make a wholehearted commitment to the rigors of Christian discipleship.

Or you might ask our home missionaries about the generally slow, painstaking process that is typically required to reach the lost and plant new churches among our unreached friends and neighbors here in North America. In our increasingly post-Christian culture, many people have very little knowledge of the Bible, very little respect for the clergy, and very little interest in the church. And often for good reason. More than ever, we must earn the right to be heard, and building this kind of trust takes time.

Or you might ask any of the farmers who work the land here in Mid-America. When you drive by their wheat fields this time of year, it may be tempting to assume that nothing is happening. But below the surface, hidden in the rich soil that lies beneath the dormant winter wheat, a mysterious and truly miraculous process is unfolding. By God's grace, the seeds that were skillfully planted in well-prepared soil last fall will slowly but surely produce a bountiful harvest just a few, short months from now. In the meantime, the farmer must patiently watch and wait.

This type of sanctified stick-to-it-iveness does not come naturally for most of us, especially in our current fast food, microwavable, high speed Internet, Instagram culture. But it is this "long obedience in the same direction" that is absolutely essential when it comes to the ministry of disciple-making. Jesus made it clear in his final marching orders, also known as the Great Commission, that there is no higher calling in life (cf. Matthew 28:18-20), and he pulled no punches about the fact that it would not be easy (cf. Luke 10:1-11).

So where does this leave us as a family of Friends who share a dream that **every local church was actively participating with God in the process of making disciples?** As Olympic champion Jesse Owens would remind us, "We all have dreams, but in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort."

Just ask Jesus. No one in human history has ever demonstrated a greater level of stick-to-it-iveness than our suffering Savior. He patiently endured opposition, denial, desertion, betrayal, arrest, condemnation, flogging and crucifixion in order to make a way for each one of us to experience the redeeming love of our good and beautiful God. And through his resurrection, we are empowered to persevere in our unwavering devotion to the fulfillment of his Great Commission, "to make disciples of all nations." No matter how long it takes, we must remain fully engaged in the work of disciple-making as we patiently and expectantly wait for that great and glorious day when "this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14).

So what are you waiting for?

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." - Galatians 6:9

